



State Council on Developmental Disabilities

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STATE COUNCIL LAUNCHES FIFTH ANNUAL POSTER CONTEST FOR CALIFORNIA ARTISTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

SACRAMENTO – The State Council on Developmental Disabilities has launched its fifth annual poster art contest, themed “Be Healthy and Enjoy Life”, created for California artists with developmental disabilities. The deadline for contest entries is November 9, 2006. All California residents who meet the federal definition of developmental disabilities are eligible and encouraged to participate.

“This year the art poster contest challenges artists with developmental disabilities to reflect on the theme, ‘Be Healthy and Enjoy Life’, and share their personal perspective through the arts,” said Dr. Olivia Raynor, director of the Tarjan Center at UCLA and State Council Member. “We welcome this opportunity to draw attention to the artistic talent and creativity of the participating artists.”

Past winners have included 2005 first place honoree Jaimal Guynn, for his art entitled “A Road to New Beginnings”; and, James Ervin, who felt the contest was a life changing event.

Judged by professional artists, in collaboration with the California Arts Council and National Arts and Disability Center at UCLA, the purpose of the Council’s Poster Art Contest is to recognize and showcase the artistic talents of Californians with developmental disabilities and to increase public awareness and understanding of all people with disabilities.

Artwork submitted for this year’s theme, “Be Healthy and Enjoy Life,” must illustrate that individuals with developmental disabilities can live independently, exert control and choices over their own lives and fully participate in all aspects of community life.

There is no entry fee. The top three winners will receive cash prizes, ranging from \$250 to \$999, as well as the opportunity to exhibit their winning entries at an event next year. Honorable mention entries also receive a \$100 cash prize.

For information on contest instructions and to obtain entry forms, please call (916) 322-8481 or email council@scdd.ca.gov.

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The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities consists of 29 Governor-appointed members. Its federal and state mandates include advocacy, capacity building and systemic change. Details about the 2006 Contest and the Council can be found on the Council’s website at www.scdd.ca.gov.